



GAU 1635
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Appln. Serial No.: 09/373,272

Group Art Unit: 1635

SEP 10 2001

Filing Date: August 12, 1999

Examiner: Epps, J.

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Applicants: Austin-Phillips et al.

Attorney Docket No.: 09820.114

Title: **Transgenic Plants as Alternative Source of Lignocellulosic-Degrading Enzymes**

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 CFR §1.111

BOX: NON-FEE AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated June 5, 2001, Applicants request favorable reconsideration in view of the following amendment and accompanying remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 16 and 17 as follows:

B1

16. (TWICE-AMENDED) A genetically recombinant **[tabacco] tobacco** or alfalfa plant, which is stably transformed to contain and express a gene sequence which encodes a cellulase-degrading enzyme selected from the group consisting of *T. fusca* cellulase E2, *T. fusca* cellulase E3, *T. reesei* CBH I, and *A. cellulolyticus* endoglucanase E1.

B2

17. (AMENDED) The genetically [recombinat] **recombinant** plant of Claim 16, which is alfalfa.